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Elk Point Review

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Tuesday, March 17, 2015
Vol. 35 No. 11 • \$1.10 (GST incl.)

Saskiw
Not running again

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Sr. Crusaders
Win SPAA gold, silver

Page 3

...Page 5



Vicki Brooker photo

Ice maiden saves the day

Princess Anna raised her turned-to-ice arm to deflect the sword of evil Prince Hans as her sister, Queen Elsa, cowers at his feet in despair at the thrilling conclusion of 'Frozen,' presented by Elk Point Skating Club.

Skating club stars in 'Frozen' delight

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

One of this year's biggest Disney hits combined with local talent on Saturday afternoon for a crowd-pleasing Elk Point Skating Club performance of "Frozen," featuring an all-star cast of 57 youngsters, ranging from beginners to teens.

The wintry tale of love, treachery, despair and delight began with the Prepower and Senior Star Skate groups dressed as ice harvesters in fur-trimmed cloaks, then moved into the castle where Princesses Anna and Elsa are making snowmen and having winter fun, until Elsa accidentally zaps Anna with her magical winter powers, as the Junior Star Skate group performs to "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?" The spell doesn't last, but Elsa is afraid of unleashing her powers and they close the gates to keep everyone out.

The gates remain closed until the girls grow up and Elsa is to be crowned queen, with Keanna Radcliffe performing the afternoon's first solo, "First Time in Forever."

At the coronation party, Anna, played by Candice Braun, dances with handsome Prince Hans, Kaiden Evans - Anderson, to "Love is an Open Door" as he charms her into thinking she is in love. They ask Queen Elsa for her blessing, which makes the queen furious, and she loses control and again accidentally freezes Anna, Elsa fleeing to the moun-

tain as Chyanne Fisher skated her solo number, "Sorcery," and is joined by the Canskaters, dressed as snowflakes for "The Freeze of Arendelle."

It's a time of self-discovery for Elsa, alone on the mountain as she lets her power free, Kayla Goertzen skating to "Let It Go."

A sparkling performance by talented guest skater Lauren Sieffert was followed by intermission and the presentation of awards to the year's top skaters: Canskaters Alannah Hoevig, Elyria DeMoissac and Remington Reynolds, Juniors Kaylee Quinney, Christine Guerzon and Chantelle Guerzon and Senior Keanna Radcliffe. Gifts were presented to coaches, assistants and the executive before the show resumed.

Anna was worried about her missing sister, and headed out with two ice harvesters and a herd of reindeer, the Prepower group skating to "Reindeers are Better People," to find her. They meet Olaf, the enchanted snowman, who can find her, as the Junior Star Skaters performed to "In Summer." They also meet a pack of hungry wolves, the Prepower group again, but manage to escape as Olaf leads them to Elsa's ice castle. Elsa is afraid to return and argues with Anna, again freezing her as Kaylee Radcliffe and Paige Skarsen skated to "First Time in Forever." Kristoff enlisted the help of the Canskate trolls, but learn the magic must be reversed.

(Continued on Page 8)

Darrell Younghans named PC candidate

JANANI WHITFIELD
Review Staff

It was a long and anxious wait for several people gathered at the St. Paul Legion on Saturday night, but seven hours after polls closed, the announcement of Darrell Younghans as the PC candidate for Lac La Biche-St. Paul-Two Hills was welcomed with loud cheers and whistles from his friends and supporters.

The former school board chair thanked the people gathered and expressed his desire to "take this constituency back" after it went to the Wildrose in 2012.

"The other candidates have all given me their blessings - I appreciate that guys," he said, turning to the three other people that ran, Conservative MP Brian Storseth, Town of St. Paul Mayor Glenn Andersen and former Lakeland County councillor Jeff Dechaine, that flanked him on other side.

"It was a close race but a very well fought battle,"

said Younghans, who had taken a leave of absence from his position as the president of the local PC constituency to run.

While the polls closed at 7 p.m., counting the votes took some time, with party officials saying it took three rounds of ranking runoff ballots in order to declare a winner, shortly after 2 a.m. on March 15. PC Alberta did not release official vote tallies on the night, but more than 1,800 ballots were cast and Younghans said he won by "a very slim majority."

It was the cap off to weeks of campaigning, he said, noting that he was thankful to his family and army of volunteers that tirelessly worked on his behalf.

"I was just exhausted. We went hard, hard," he said, with his victory speech saying the PCs could give it a run in the riding in any upcoming election as long as the team continued to work together.

One of his backers, former PC MLA Ray Danyluk, crowed with delight as Younghans accepted congratu-

lations from the packed room at the Legion, which included distinct camps of support for each of the four candidates.

"Sweet, sweet, sweet," announced Danyluk, who lost the 2012 election to the Wildrose's Shayne Saskiw, who had Storseth's support. "Justice prevails."

"What happened was, Darrell ran the cleanest campaign ever," Danyluk said. "I never hear him say 'I.' It's never 'I.' It's about his community, and that's key."

Ruven Rajoo, a Two Hills area supporter of Younghans, pointed out the massive campaigning efforts for Younghans by his volunteers, saying that on Saturday, he had made 200 calls himself in trying to ensure that votes would not be lost to Storseth, whose camp was also trying to sew up support.

Storseth left immediately after the results were announced and did not respond to calls for comment following the nomination results.

(Continued on Page 8)



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COUNTY OF ST. PAUL No. 19



HIGHLIGHTS

March 10, 2015
Council Meeting

Fire Permits – Just a reminder that year round Fire Permits are required for all types of open burning within the County.

Annual Meeting – Will be held April 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mallaig Fire Hall. The auditors will be in attendance to present the financial statements.

Volunteer Income Tax Program – Trained volunteers will be available to complete income tax returns for County residents, free of charge. You can drop your information off at the County Office and after the tax return is completed, you will receive a call to pick it up or it can be mailed back to you at your request. To find out if you qualify for this service or for more information, call 780-645-1950.

Planning and Development – Council approved Bylaw No. 2014-32 to rezone 18.31 acres in PSW 34-57-9-W4 from Agricultural to Country Residential One. Council also gave first reading to Bylaw Nos. 2015-05 and 2015-07 which are amendments to the Land Use Bylaw No. 2013-05. Bylaw No. 2015-05 addresses Park Models, Temporary Access Buildings as well as a re-application for an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw. Bylaw No. 2015-07 amends the General Urban District to permit one RV as the sole use on Lot 12, Block 1, Plan 7820473 until December 31, 2018.

Bylaw No. 2015-06 also received first reading. This Bylaw amends the Municipal Development Plan No. 2013-51 so that it aligns with the Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Government Act. All bylaws can be viewed on the County Website.

Road Construction – Council made a motion to amend the road construction priorities in Division 5 for the 2015 construction season. The County will no longer be building Range Road 104 on an undeveloped statutory road allowance through the wetland. Instead, Council has directed Administration to pursue improving the intersection at Twp Rd 591 and Twp Rd 590; as well as realigning the road through the Hamlet of Owls-eye. These improvements and realignment will need to be negotiated with affected landowners as well as Muni-Cor since the realignment will be near the Iron Horse Trail. This change will still address the safety concerns for area residents, which was Council's main objective for building Range Road 104.

CommAlert System – CommAlert is a system that will enhance the County, the Town of St. Paul, Town of Elk Point and the Summer Village of Horseshoe Bay Regional Emergency Management System. The System's main purpose is to provide residents with notice of emergency situations – i.e. evacuation notices, extreme weather events, etc. The system will also be used to alert Emergency Management members that the Emergency Command Centre has been activated. The municipalities will also be able to use the system for municipal purposes i.e. notification of utility service disruption or road closures, etc. The system will be integrated with the Regional GIS system and will allow for 2-way communication rather than just notification. For example if residents needed to be evacuated for their safety, they could indicate if they are able to evacuate or if they need assistance. This would allow for more effective use of first responders. As the program is ready for implementation, residents will be provided more information regarding how to register their pertinent information into the system so that they can be notified when required.

Emergency Livestock Trailer – A committee of Council and Administration met with the St. Paul Ag. Society and the St. Paul Fire Chief who support the concept of an Emergency Livestock Trailer and have agreed to work together on this project. The group will be applying for grants for the trailer.

Coyote Reduction Incentive Program – To date the County has paid out on 1377 coyotes and 13 wolves. Administration is expecting that the money in the budget will run out by the end of March.

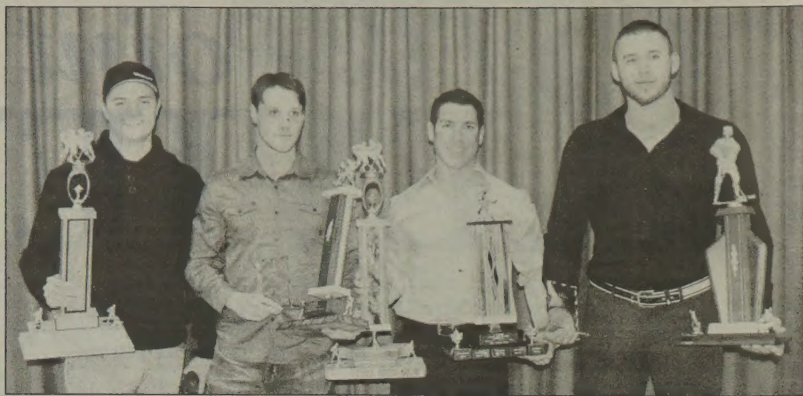
Noise Bylaw – Council approved Noise Control Bylaw No. 2015-03. This Bylaw replaces the previous noise control bylaw which dates back to 1995. The bylaw controls activities creating noise, sets out times that these activities can occur and prohibits excessive noise. It can be viewed on the County website.

Municipal Internships – The County of St. Paul was once again the recipient of a grant through Municipal Affairs to host a Municipal Intern. Commencing in May 2015 the County will be hosting a Finance Intern for a period of one year. Additionally the County is participating in two Co-op Programs with post-secondary institutions. A student from NAIT's Water and Wastewater Program will be joining the County for four months to gain her hours for certification. As well a Civil Engineering student from SIAST in Moose Jaw will be joining the Road Construction team for eight months.

Funding Support:

- \$500 each to Mallaig Atoms, St. Paul Atoms, Pee-wees and Bantams to attend Provincial Hockey Tournaments

For more information contact Sheila Kitz, CAO,
County of St. Paul at 780-645-3301, ext. 208.



Vicki Brooker photo

ELKS TAKE HOME TROPHIES - Left to right are Best Defenseman Mark Brodwin, Most Dedicated Player Devon Moneta, MVP and Top Scorer Myles Whitford and Rookie of the Year Harrison Maas. Not shown is Most Improved Player Craig Dallaire.

Elks celebrate a successful season

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Myles Whitford was named both the Most Valuable Player and the Top Scorer of the 2014-15 season when the Elk Point Elks senior hockey club held their awards night on Friday. Whitford was one of three very close competitors for the MVP award, sponsored by Vernon Sharkey, the Top Scorer award was sponsored by Elk Point Insurance.

Team captain Devon Moneta captured the Most Dedicated Player award, sponsored by K and S Windsor Salt, while Mark Brodwin took home the E-Can Oilfield Services LP trophy for Best Defenseman and Harrison Maas accepted the B & R Eckels trophy for Rookie of the Year. Sharkey also sponsored the trophy for Most Improved Player, which went to Craig Dallaire.

The awards come at the end of a very successful season for the team as part of the SaskAlta Hockey League for the first time in more than a decade. Master of ceremonies Brian Poitras thanked coaches Murray Cochrane and Tony Meger "for taking the reins," and Rocky Botting and Myles Quinney for their help in getting the team going. "We still have a couple of games to go, and maybe a provincial bid," Poitras said. The Elks take on the Marwayne Comets this Friday in Marwayne and Saturday in St. Paul, with the winner of the two game, total point series heading to provincials in Camrose on March 27 to 29.

"It's been a huge year for us," Botting said, noting that efforts to resuscitate the Elks had been made in the previous two years, but without success. However, "with the SaskAlta League expansion, we had an opportunity to slide in. Murray and Tony stepped up to the plate and that made it easier. It's been a huge success." He expressed appreciation to the committee and the players, and also to the community, friends and family for their "really big support. Without that, we wouldn't have anything." Botting said he is looking forward to the next season, when the team will be looking for a few more players to replace some who will be leaving the area.

Moneta had his turn at the microphone, thanking coaches and volunteers as well as "all the guys for showing up. I think we turned a lot of heads this year."

The coaches also had their turns to address the crowd. Cochrane, who played with the earlier version of the Elks, said, "It makes me feel good to see the Elks back on the ice. It's so important to have those guys around." It was a season when he "learned a lot" about the new role of coaching, and gained a new appreciation for the volunteers and the fan support as well.

Meger added special thanks to Botting for his help in getting the team up and running, and said, "It was fun – let's keep it going."

The Elks were sponsored for the season by Elk Point Sand and Gravel.

Saskiw not running again

JANANI WHITFIELD
Review Staff

Wildrose MLA Shayne Saskiw announced Thursday that he will not be running in any upcoming election, a decision he said he made after getting an inside look at how politics works.

"I've been thinking about it for quite a while and finally came to the realization that I'm better championing small-c conservative values and beliefs outside of the traditional party system," he said, adding he will be "starting up an entity that advocates strongly

for Albertan provincial issues," and will share details at a later stage.

Saskiw said making his decision to step down easier was the fact that he found someone whom he called an "outstanding Wildrose candidate."

David Hanson, who has a mixed-farming operation in the County of St. Paul, has lived in Two Hills, Lac La Biche and St. Paul areas, and is familiar with the riding. Besides his experience in agriculture, he has experience in construction and oil and gas fields, said Saskiw.

Correction

Our apologies to the Elk Point Trail Riders and to CRJ Trucking, who were accidentally called CPJ Trucking in last week's Snowmobile Rally coverage.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT

The Town of Elk Point is accepting applications for
Census Enumerators

Potential enumerators must be: courtesy, professional, accurate, attentive, and flexible.

Applications due March 27, 2015 at noon

Applications can be dropped off
(4914 - 50 Ave),

e-mailed (town@elkpoint.ca),
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or mailed (Box 448, Elk Point, AB T0A 1A0).

For more information contact the Town Office
at 724-3810



SPAA CHAMPIONS - F. G. Miller Senior Boys Crusaders brought home the gold - Back - Coach Bonnie Fairbairn, Dawson Delorme, Zack Warner, Ramsey Mudryk, Ethan Tremblay; front - Kevin Tuliao, Jessy Frisby, Brandon Garrett, Tristan Delorme.

Photos submitted

More Crusader gold!

JANICE HUSER
Review Contributor

Emotions ran high at the Mallaig School gym on Tuesday afternoon, as two senior high boys' basketball teams went head to head for the 2015 St. Paul Athletics Association (SPAA) championship title.

It was a close game for the most part, Elk Point's F.G. Miller Crusaders eventually claiming the win and the SPAA banner. The Mallaig Stingers would walk away with the silver medal.

"It feels good," said Bonnie Fairbairn, head coach of the F.G. Miller squad. She says it's been a long time since the school brought home a SPAA basketball banner. Fairbairn has been coaching the boys' team for two seasons, and has seen huge growth.

There was "a lot of practice. A lot of hard work," this season, she says, and Tuesday's game was a perfect example of working hard.

"(The boys) had to work hard. Mallaig's a really good team." And although a couple of the players stood out to Fairbairn on Tuesday afternoon, in the end, achieving a championship is a team effort.

Girls

On the girls' side, the F.G. Miller Crusaders wouldn't be quite as successful in achieving a banner, falling to the Glendon Marquise by a margin of about 30 points, representatives from the Crusaders and Glendon were quick to praise the efforts of Elk Point's team.

"We had a great season," says F.G. Miller assistant coach Kari

Sundt. The team was made up of only five girls, which is exactly the number needed to play. The girls had to train hard and do a lot of running at practice to make sure they would be in top-notch shape to play an entire basketball game without any extra players.

One player specific-

ally, Lee-Anna Gibson, would often get to school at 7 a.m., early every morning, to practice, even when the team didn't have practice, says Sundt, which speaks to the dedication and commitment of the team.

The girls were "very committed . . . and very strong athletes."



SILVER MEDALISTS, left to right, back - Madi Novakowski (coach), Kassandra Moores, Vanessa Ockerman, Mallory Krider, Kari Sundt (assistant coach); front - Taylor Castle-Wasson, Lee-Anna Gibson.

The Elk Point 2015 Grad Class would appreciate any donations so they may hold a Garage Sale in the near future.

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**Capsule
Comments**

by Your Natural Choice Apple Drugs
Pharmacy Manager, Chris Letawsky

March is Nutrition Month in Canada. Here are the five guidelines for healthy eating: 1) Enjoy a variety of foods; 2) Emphasize cereals, breads, other grain products, vegetables and fruits; 3) choose low-fat dairy products, lean meats, and food prepared with little or no fat; 4) achieve and maintain a healthy body weight by enjoying regular exercise; 5) limit salt, alcohol and caffeine.

Honey is one of the few foods that doesn't spoil. With liquid honey, there may be some crystallization with time, but this doesn't mean it's gone bad. Placing it in warm water will dissolve the crystals. By the way, a bit of honey is helpful when your child is coughing. Give it a try if your child is over one year of age.

People who have trouble sleeping at night might benefit from a long, warm bath one or two hours before bedtime. Evidently our core temperature drops starting about 2 hours before bedtime and is at its lowest around 4 a.m. Warming up the body with a nice bath combined with the drop during the night, will relax you.

Or you can follow the advice of Mark Twain: *If you can't sleep, try lying on the end of the bed. . . then you might drop off.* Probably not an acceptable way to a better sleep!

March is also **Pharmacists Awareness Month**. It's a time to highlight all the services we pharmacists can extend to your customers. Our role in healthcare is expanding and we want you to be aware of some of these new directions.

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LICA is proud to have our Airshed Zone and Beaver River Watershed Alliance as independent standing committees

EDITORIAL

Out of space

We've done our best, but this week we have more news and photos than space. If the news or photo you are looking for isn't to be found, please be patient - we promise to have it for you next week.

Our news space is determined by the amount of advertising, and doesn't always coincide with the amount of news we'd like to print.

This week, we're going with some big wins and the political highlights from the provincial scene. Please check back next week for the rest of the stories.

WAY BACK WHEN...

Oil, fairgrounds and healthcare

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 17 IN...

1985

Murphy Oil Company Limited announced plans for a \$35 million thermal recovery project from heavy oil deposits in the Lindbergh area, with the four-phase project to have an overall life of 30 years. The Energy Resources Conservation Board granted approval to Amoco Canada to proceed with phase one of a three-phase project, the first phase involving testing thermal recovery with a 13-well cyclic steam injection and steamflood project, drilling 160 additional wells and construction of a bitumen cleaning plant.

1990

A high incidence of shoplifting involving Listerine and Lysol spray prompted the Elk Point Co-op to remove the products from their shelves and discontinue their sale. Elk Point and District Agricultural Society's plans for a fairgrounds, pavilion and race-track were back on the table, with town council passing a bylaw to rezone a 30-acre parcel across Highway 41 and slightly to the south of the parcel the society had originally wanted to develop.

1995

Amoco Canada announced that they had sold their interests in the Elk Point and Lindbergh area to ELAN Energy of Calgary for \$126 million. Lakeland Regional Health Authority released their final plans for healthcare delivery in northeast Alberta, after significant changes were made to original and second drafts, with Elk Point to have 24-hour emergency service, 10 acute care beds, lab and x-ray services, 25 continuing care beds, respite and palliative care.

2000

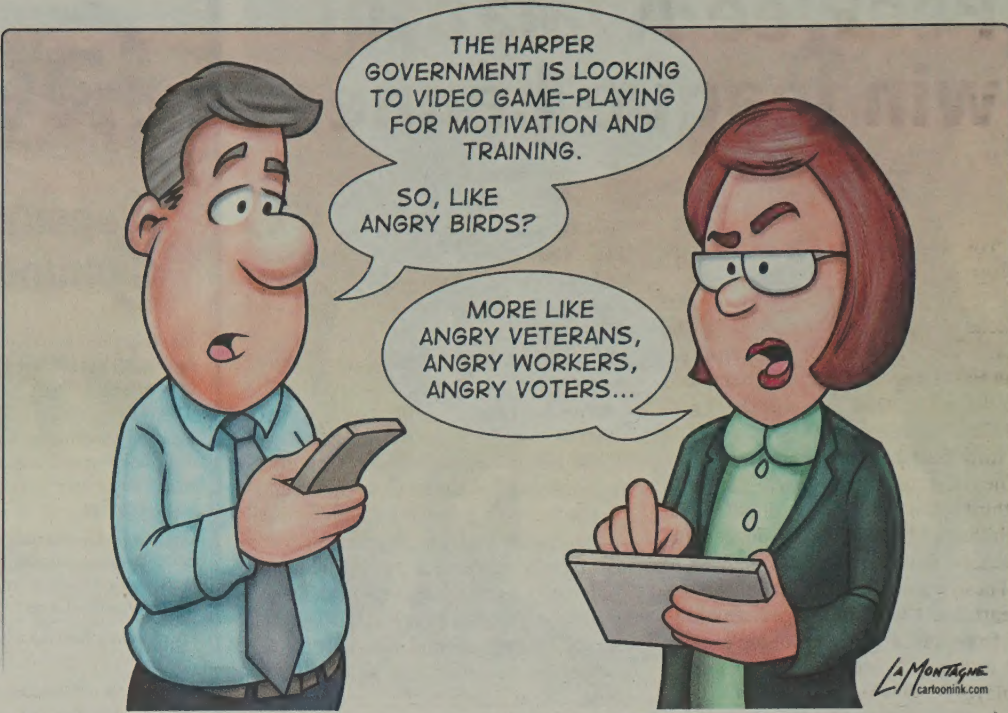
Olympic women's hockey gold medalist Fiona Smith was a special guest when the Elk Point Storm hosted the Midget Female Provincials tournament. Frog Lake First Nations Chief Thomas Abraham and federal government representative Leo Saskamoose officially opened Morning Sky Health and Wellness Centre.

2005

Elk Point Elementary School held its annual Science Fair, with 11 students from Grades 3 to 6 who created six informative projects winning awards of excellence. The County of St. Paul approved the spending of a \$20,000 centennial grant to build gazebos in Elk Point and Ashmont Iron Horse Trail staging areas.

2010

Town council had a full house on hand for their meeting, with two interest groups and a property owner protesting a bylaw that would close a portion of 53 Ave east of Highway 41. Proposed changes in County of St. Paul electoral boundaries brought only a handful of residents to an open house, with no concerns expressed over the changes.



HISTORY DAY 2015



HISTORY DAY at Elk Point Municipal Library brought together collections of treasured memorabilia and historical documents to be examined and enjoyed by a sizeable crowd. Above, Irene Lindquist and Marjorie Scott of the Elk Point Historical Society show off some of the maps and photos from Marvin

Bjornstad's collection; at right, Pat Swedgan shows her array of Stoney Lake Rodeo memorabilia to Ernie Poitras; bottom right, Bjornstad and Bob Hendriks watch an interview with the late Pat Johnson; below, Ellen Seward, Steve Andrishak and Ernie Poitras examine some of Ray Hellquist's extensive collection of school memorabilia. Also on hand for the well attended afternoon were Amy Bullock with information on genealogy and Ross Stromberg from Fort George and Buckingham House Historic Site.



Elk Point REVIEW

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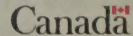
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Peewee Avalanche win league banner

DOUG BASSETT
Review Sports

"Top of the morning to you laddies and lassies!" Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Some real fantastic news this past weekend! Because... "We are the champions!" Our **Peewee Avalanche** are North East League Tier Two Champions after defeating Irma this past weekend. First time for a long time, we have won the North East League.

The best of three series going to the third game and it was another real nail bitter, right to the final buzzer, the Avalanche winning the final game 5 to 4. These games are not for the weak of heart, but I wouldn't expect anything else from these guys who have gone right to the 11th hour in every game of the playoffs, so why change now? They obviously work better under pressure!

Game 1 of the final round was played Thursday night in Elk Point vs Irma, the South league's top team. The Avs took the game 5-4, sending Irma's 19-0 record tumbling down that mountain!

Saturday afternoon turned out to be our typical Game 2, coming up short and losing 6-4 in Irma. Assistant Captain Hank Rogal told the team after the loss, "They just wanted it more today, boys."

Third time's the charm as it has been during the whole playoff run! The Peewees traveled back to Irma to win by a score of 5-4!!! Not sure who was more excited, the players or their fans.

Some guys score and assist every wee and they do deserve all the glory they get, because we need these guys, but it takes a total team effort to win tough games. And without a committed coach-

ing staff you won't go far either. Hats off to coaches Marty Bendixen, Tyson Stafford and the team manager Melissa Rogal for a terrific job this season.

The **Novice Avalanche** have also played extremely well this year and finished up their season on Sunday afternoon with a nice close game against the Vermilion Tigers, the Avalanche coming out on top of this one 7 to 6. A hat trick for the "Kid Kade" Fontaine, "King Kong Konnor" Poitras hammering home two, Vaughn Ockerman lighting the lamp with one and "Timmy Joe" Cardinal with a beauty of a one timer for his first goal of the season. "Bo Diddley" Fontaine with an awesome poke check to prevent a breakaway, Kaleb Flamond, "St. Nic" Penner and Gavin "Giver" Kadutski all on the score sheet with an assist. Seth Morton came close a few times but no cigar for him. Between the pipes, "Cyclone Cole" Pierce was really looking sharp in his goaltending debut. Another pat on the back for head coach James Capjack, and assistants Shane Fontaine, Conrad Pierce, Dean Rogal, James Penner and manager Tanya Fontaine for doing a super job of bringing this bunch a long way from the beginning in October.

All the **Peewee Girls Storm** really needed was a few goals to boost their morale and give them a little confidence; they gained some of that last weekend in Jasper where they won their first game of the year and scored some goals; inspired by that weekend, it carried over to this Sunday when they won again, this time over Bonnyville 3 to 0. Sydnee "the Kid" Crawford with her first goal of the year, Jenna "Precious" Poitras finding



Melinda Henderson photo

the pocket with a rocket and Halle "Comet" Stybel firing a missile into the twine too!

The **Bantam Avalanche** played an exhibition game on Sunday against Vermilion, winning 9 to 2. Nicholas "Sparky" Anderson with 4 goals, the "Big O" Brody Odgaard, Zane Cribbins, Angus McFarlane, Keenan Stafford and team captain "Warrior Warren" Ference all with a single each. The king of the castle, goalie Spencer Hardcastle had his fortress sealed up tight for his knights. This coming weekend the Avalanche will travel to Cochrane to play in one final tournament.

Tomorrow my buddy Mark "the Marksman" Letestu is in Edmonton when Columbus plays against the Oilers, so you can you guess where I'm going to be? That's one reason I came home from the Jays spring training camp I attended last week in Florida. The other reason: I'd rather go to work than a ball game! Hahaha!

Peewee Avalanche are the Champions!

Remembering mom,
OLGA BUKSA

Feb. 23, 1924-Mar. 14, 2014

And dad,

NESTER BUKSA

Feb. 28, 1920 - April 29, 2009



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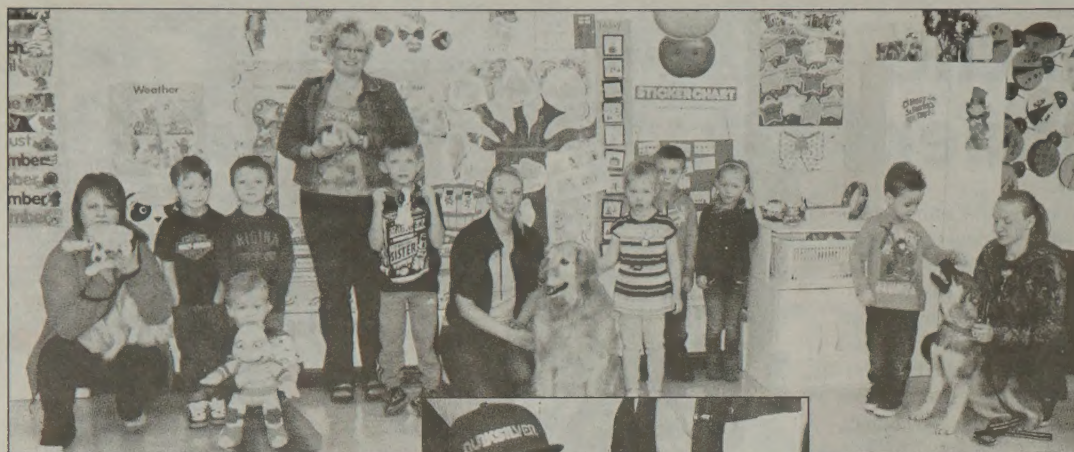
5529-49 STREET
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MLS# E3405340 **\$119,900**

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MLS# E3404843 **\$512,000**



The Jack and Jill Playschool held its annual Pet Day last Tuesday, when everyone was welcome to bring their favourite well-behaved pet, live or stuffed, to school with them. Above is the morning class, which featured everything from dogs large and small to a fish and a Ninja Turtle. Right and far right are the afternoon class, whose pets included a big dog who preferred to have the class come upstairs to meet him.



Pet Day at Jack and Jill Playschool

ST. PAUL MINOR BALL REGISTRATIONS ST. PAUL CO-OP MALL

Tuesday, March 17

5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 18

5:00 to 7:30 pm

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School Board bracing for budget

JANANI WHITFIELD
Review Staff

The upcoming provincial budget raises question marks for the local school board, with St. Paul Education Regional Division trustees just one of many waiting to see what comes down the pipe on March 26.

At the school board's Feb. 11 regular meeting, Supt. Glen Brodziak said the division was reviewing its spending. The goal was to be proactive, "in case the news is less than good," after the province warned of belt-tightening in the wake of plummeting oil prices.

"We know in Alberta that public funding goes up and down with the price of oil," noted secretary-treasurer Jean Champagne. This poses a challenge for budgeting for the school division, since the division can't deal with shortfalls in funding by cutting off grades or students, he pointed out. "The kids keep coming to school."

Champagne was speaking to the division's reserves and noted that just about in all measures, the school division is a little below the provincial average, but, he added, "That's not necessarily a bad thing." The board has made a conscientious effort to spend some of its reserves to allocate funding to schools, he said.

Following the release of the budget, it remains to be seen if the school board will have to dip into its reserves, since it is entirely dependent on its grants for funding.

"What we're given is what we get," said Champagne.

Board chair Heather Starosielski pointed out that SPERD has always asked for "predictable, sustainable funding," adding, "We're still waiting for predictable, sustainable funding."

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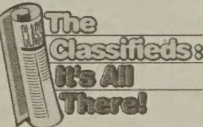
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'Frozen' a huge hit

(Continued from Front Page)

Meanwhile, Prince Hans and his soldiers track down Elsa in the "Summit Siege," skated by the Junior Stars Skaters, and drag her back to the castle dungeon. Olaf found Anna, lost and freezing and helped her warm up by the fire, Kaitlyn Boratynec and Desiree Garrett skating to "Some People are Worth Melting For."

Olaf seeks Kristoff racing toward the castle, and knows it is Kristoff that Anna needs to kiss to break the spell. She sets off to find him, Elsa

escapes the dungeon and sets off to find her, pursued by Prince Hans, who raises his sword but is stopped by Anna, who leaps in front of her fallen sister as Catherine Nofall and Chyanne Fisher skated to "White Out." The sword shatters against Anna, who has turned to ice, but thaws when her sister throws her arms around her, in the midst of "The Great Thaw," skated by the Senior Star Skate, before they were joined on the ice by the other groups in the grand finale of another tremendous ice carnival.



Coaching staff and top skaters received gifts and rewards, above. At left, the Junior Star Skaters perform to "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?"



Younghans

(Continued from Front Page)

Dechaine and Andersen both offered their congratulations to Younghans.

"A heck of a battle," said Dechaine, who said he "was really proud of my whole team" for their campaigning efforts. However, he added he was ready to throw his support behind Younghans.

"It was an interesting process, probably not one of the most positive ones I've been through in my life," said Andersen of the nomination process,

which began with a hiccup as one nomination committee was thrown out, another was brought in and as the nomination deadline was extended to clear the way for late contender Storseth to enter the race.

Andersen also noted that in his campaigning, many people indicated they would not support the PCs, and said he believed that the election ahead wouldn't necessarily be smooth sailing. However, he wished Younghans all the best as he moved forward in the election process.

Younghans agreed that in what is widely believed to be a spring election, it would not be a straightforward path to victory for the PCs in the riding.

"There was some negative PC things we heard on the trail," he said.

However, all four people running for the nominations had built momentum and reenergized the party by selling memberships, he said.

"It's a really good base when you've had 1,800 votes cast," he said, adding, "It spells nothing but good for the party."

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